

212/219

In the claims:

1. (withdrawn) An inflatable vest to circumferentially fit around a patient comprising:

a belt of inextensible material sized to fit circumferentially around the patient with a width to cover a substantial portion of a chest of the patient, having an inner surface facing toward the chest, and having an aperture sized to receive a connector post of a removable bladder;

the removable bladder secured to said belt and further comprising:

a bottom-chest panel of an inextensible material sized to cover a substantial portion or more of the chest;

a top-belt panel of an inextensible material having edges sealed to edges of the bottom-chest panel to form an air tight bladder chamber, said top-belt panel having a width substantially greater than a width of the belt,

the connector post mounted to the top-belt panel to form a gas passageway to the chamber mounted on said belt and in fluid communication with said chamber, said connector post adapted to couple with a pneumatic hose.

2. (withdrawn) The vest of claim 1, wherein said panels of the removable bladder are made of a nylon fabric double coated with polyurethane.

3. (withdrawn) The vest of claim 1, wherein the width of said top-chest panel is at least two inches greater than a width of the belt where the belt overlaps the bladder.

212/219

4. (withdrawn) The vest of claim 1 further comprising a sleeve attached to said top-chest panel and where said sleeve forms an opening to receive the belt.
5. (withdrawn) The vest of claim 1 further comprising a pair of loop bands attached to said top-chest panel and where each of said loop bands forms an opening to receive the belt.
6. (canceled)
7. (canceled)
8. (currently amended) The vest of claim 6, An inflatable vest for administering CPR to a patient, the patient having a chest, armpits, and a sternum, said sternum having a superior-inferior length and said chest having an anterior surface, the inflatable vest comprising:

a belt sized to circumferentially fit around the patient and to cover substantially the entire width of the chest between the armpits and to cover substantially the entire superior-inferior length of the sternum, said belt being substantially circumferentially inextensible when fitted around the patient; and,

a bladder attached to the belt, said bladder having a width and said bladder comprising:

a bottom-chest panel composed of an inextensible material that is adapted to cover at least substantially the entire portion of the anterior surface of the chest of the patient;

a top-belt panel composed of an inextensible material and sealed to the bottom-chest panel to form a gas tight bladder chamber having an opening to receive compressed gas;

212/219

wherein the bottom-chest panel and the top-belt panel form a radially extensible bellows; and

wherein the width of said bladder is at least two inches greater than the width of the belt.

9. (canceled)

10. (withdrawn) The vest of claim 6 further comprising a pair of loop bands attached to said top-chest panel and where each of said loop bands forms an opening to receive the belt.

11. (withdrawn) The vest of claim 6, wherein said top-chest panel has at least one attachment panel which attaches to at least one corresponding attachment panel on an inner surface of the belt, when the belt is aligned with the bladder.

12. (canceled)

13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) The vest of claim 12, An inflatable vest for administering CPR to a patient, the patient having a chest, armpits, and a sternum, said sternum having a superior-inferior length, the vest comprising:

a belt sized to circumferentially fit around the patient and to cover substantially the entire width of the chest between the armpits and to cover substantially the entire superior-inferior length of the sternum, said belt being substantially circumferentially inelastic when fitted around the patient; and

a bladder, attached to the belt, said bladder having a width, said bladder comprising:

a bottom-chest panel composed of an inelastic material that is adapted to cover at least substantially the

212/219

entire portion of the top of the chest of the patient;
and

a top-belt panel composed of an inelastic material and
sealed to said bottom-chest panel to form a gas tight
bladder chamber having an opening to receive
compressed gas;

wherein the bottom-chest panel and the top-belt panel
form a radially inelastically extensible bellows; and

wherein the width of said bladder is at least two inches
greater than the width of the belt.

15. (previously presented) An inflatable vest for administering CPR to a patient, the patient having a thorax, the vest comprising:

a belt sized to circumferentially fit around the patient, said belt having a width to cover substantially the entire thorax of the patient, said belt being substantially circumferentially inextensible when fitted around the patient; and

a bladder, attached to the belt, said bladder having a width greater than the width of the belt, said bladder comprising:

a bottom-chest panel composed of an inextensible material that is adapted to cover substantially the entire thorax of the patient;

a top-belt panel composed of an inextensible material and sealed to said bottom-chest panel to form a gas tight bladder chamber having an opening to receive compressed gas;

212/219

wherein the bottom-chest panel and the top-belt panel form a radially extensible bellows.

16. (previously presented) The vest of claim 15, wherein the width of said belt is about ten inches.

17. (previously presented) The vest of claim 15, wherein the width of said bladder is at least two inches greater than the width of the belt.

18. (previously presented) An inflatable vest for administering CPR to a patient, the patient having a chest, armpits, and a sternum, said sternum having a superior-inferior length, said vest comprising:

a belt sized to circumferentially fit around the patient and to cover substantially the entire width of the chest between the armpits and to cover substantially the entire superior-inferior length of the sternum, said belt being substantially circumferentially inextensible when fitted around the patient;

a detachable bladder, detachably attached to the belt, said bladder having a width, said bladder comprising:

a bottom-chest panel composed of an inextensible material that is adapted to cover at least substantially the entire portion of the top of the chest of the patient;

a top-belt panel composed of an inextensible material and sealed to said bottom-chest panel to form a gas tight bladder chamber having an opening to receive compressed gas;

wherein the bottom-chest panel and the top-belt panel form a radially extensible bellows.

212/219

19. (previously presented) The vest of claim 18, wherein the bottom-chest panel and the top-belt panel are made of nylon fabric double coated with polyurethane.

20. (previously presented) The vest of claim 18, wherein the width of said bladder is at least two inches greater than the width of the belt.

21 through 25 (canceled)

26. (currently amended) The vest of claim 21, An inflatable vest for administering CPR to a patient, the patient having a chest, said chest having an anterior surface extending laterally between the patient's armpits and superiorly along the superior-inferior length of the patient's sternum, said inflatable vest comprising:

a belt sized to circumferentially fit around the patient's chest and to cover substantially the entire anterior surface of the chest, said belt being substantially circumferentially inextensible when fitted around the patient; and

a bladder attached to the belt so that, when the belt is fitted around the patient's chest, the bladder is disposed between the belt and the patient's chest, said bladder having a width and said bladder comprising:

a bottom panel composed of an inextensible material that is adapted to cover substantially the entire anterior surface of the chest of the patient;

a top panel composed of an inextensible material and sealed to the bottom panel to form the bladder;

wherein the width of said bladder is at least two inches greater than the width of the belt.

27. (canceled)

212/219

28. (canceled)

29. (currently amended) The vest of claim 24, An inflatable vest for administering CPR to a patient, the patient having a chest, said chest having an anterior surface extending laterally between the patient's armpits and superiorly along the superior-inferior length of the patient's sternum, said inflatable vest comprising:

a belt sized to circumferentially fit around the patient's chest and to cover substantially the entire anterior surface of the chest, said belt being substantially circumferentially inextensible when fitted around the patient; and

a bladder attached to the belt so that, when the belt is fitted around the patient's chest, the bladder is disposed between the belt and the patient's chest, said bladder having a width and said bladder comprising:

a bottom panel composed of an inextensible material that is adapted to cover substantially the entire anterior surface of the chest of the patient;

a top panel composed of an inextensible material and sealed to the bottom panel to form the bladder;

wherein the bladder further comprises an opening to receive compressed gas;

wherein the bottom panel and the top panel form a radially extensible bellows;

wherein the width of said bladder is at least two inches greater than the width of the belt.

30. (canceled)